

**TOP SECRET/SENSITIVE**  
**EYES ONLY**

1-23-71

Dear Fred:

Enclosed is the signed original of the  
President's message to General Lon Nol  
which I had cabled to you earlier.

Warm regards,

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Alexander M. Haig, Jr.  
Brigadier General, U.S. Army  
Deputy Assistant to the President  
for National Security Affairs

Mr. Jonathan F. Ladd  
American Embassy  
Phnom Penh

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE  
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

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VIA CAS CHANNELS

January 23, 1971

TO : MR. LADD, PHNOM PENH  
FROM: GENERAL HAIG, THE WHITE HOUSE  
REF: PHNOM PENH 440

Please pass following message from the President to General Lon Nol which replies to his New Year's greetings contained dated January 21, reftel. The signed original of the message, is being pouched to you via the CAS channel:

"Dear Mr. Prime Minister:

"Your New Year's greetings and best wishes to me, the members of my family, and the American people and Armed Forces were very much appreciated. We in the United States have greatly admired the dedication and heroism of the Khmer people and Armed Forces under your leadership in resisting the brutal invasion of your country. It is a source of great satisfaction to me that assistance from the United States has helped you to defend successfully the neutrality and independence of the Khmer Republic.

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"You may be assured that our assistance will continue. In this respect, I have directed that the most careful consideration be given to the economic and military requirements which you outlined in your letter to me of December 31, 1970. One of my purposes in sending General Haig to Cambodia was to gain an appreciation of your needs, and I am pleased that you found his visit useful. I am confident that the help of other nations also will be of value, and I note with interest the steps which you are taking in promoting and developing regional cooperation to this end.

"On behalf of the American people I extend to you and the Khmer people the most heartfelt Best wishes for the New Year and hopes for a peaceful, happy, and prosperous future.

Sincerely

/s/ Richard Nixon"

His Excellency

Lon Nol

President of the Council of

Ministers of Cambodia

Phnom Penh"

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